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PETUNIA PLANT NAMED 'SUNROVEIN'

BOTANICAL/COMMERCIAL CLASSIFICATION

Petunia hybrida/Petunia Plant

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

cv. 'Sunrovein'

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10 The Petunia is a very popular plant that is used for
flower bedding and potting in the summer season. There
are only a few Petunia varieties which do not have an
upright growth habit and which have a high resistance to
rain, heat, and diseases. The Petunia plant that we
15 previously filed, i.e. the 'Revolution' series {
'Revolution Purple pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,915),
'Revolution Brilliant pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,914),
'Revolution Brilliant pink-mini' (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
6,899), and 'Revolution Blue vein' (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
20 9,322) } are decumbent type plants having long stems, a
lower plant height, abundant branching, and a high
resistance to heat, rain and diseases. However, there are
only a few Petunia varieties having a great profusion of
flowers, vivid colored flower petals and a high
25 resistance to rain, heat, cold and diseases. Accordingly,
this invention was aimed at obtaining a new variety which
had so many flowers having vivid purplish red colored
petals with deep purplish red vein, many branching and
decumbent growth habit together with the above features.

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 The present new distinct cultivar of Petunia was
created by heavy ion beam irradiation on the *Petunia*
hybrid variety called 'Revolution brilliant pink'.
'Revolution brilliant pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,914) is
35 our *Petunia* hybrid variety and grown at Omi R&D Center,
Suntory Flowers Ltd.

In November 1999, 5 Gy of ionic neon (135MeV) irradiated on 128 pieces of in-vitro axillary bud of 'Revolution brilliant pink' with the Ring Cyclotron at the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research. Two weeks later, elongated buds were grown from cuttings. In April 2000, we selected a plant having vivid purplish red petal with deep purplish red pattern. In January 2001, the plant was propagated by cutting. And then the obtained plants were grown in pots and planter boxes on trial from April 2001 at the Omi R&D Center of Suntory Flowers Ltd. By October 2001, the botanical characteristics of the finally selected plant were examined. As a result, it was concluded that this new *Petunia* plant is distinguishable from any other variety, whose existence is known to us, and is uniform and stable in its characteristics, and then this new variety of *Petunia* plant was named 'Sunrovein'.

In the following description, the color-cording is in accordance with the Horticultural Color Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S. Color Chart).

The parent used to obtain this new variety 'Sunrovein' was 'Revolution brilliant pink' having very spreading habit and many branching. It has medium single flowers having vivid purplish red (R.H.S. 74A) petals. The bottom color of the corolla throat is dark purple (R.H.S. 83A) and outside color of the corolla tube is deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 70C).

The main botanical characteristics of the 'Revolution brilliant pink' are as follows:
Plant:

Growth habit. - Decumbent.
Plant height. - Approximately 15 cm
Spreading area of plant. - Very large; approximately

100 cm.

Blooming period. - Mid April to late October in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

5 Thickness. - Main stem, approximately 3.0 mm.

Pubescence. - Normal.

Branching. - Many.

Length of internode. - Approximately 3.0 cm.

Color. - Moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A).

10 Leaf:

Whole shape. - Lanceolate. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. - Approximately 6.0 cm.

Width. - Approximately 3.5 cm.

15 Color. - Upper-side color is moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence. - Sparse.

Flower:

20 Facing direction. - Slanted upward.

Type. - Single.

Shape of corolla tube. - Thick.

Shape of petal chip. - Acute.

Lobation. - Medium.

25 Waving of petal. - Weak.

Diameter. - Approximately 7.5 cm.

Color. - Petal; vivid purplish red (R.H.S. 74A). Bottom color of the corolla throat; dark purple (R.H.S. 83A). Outside color of the corolla tube; deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 70C).

30 Reproductive organs. - 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. Color of pistil is grayish olive green (R.H.S. 137A). Color of stamen is light purple (R.H.S. 87D).

35 Peduncle. - Approximately 1.0 mm in thickness, and approximately 2.0 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics; Moderate resistance to cold and pests. Strong resistance to rain,

heat and diseases.

The main botanical characteristics of similar variety 'SUNROVE' used for examination as comparison are as follows:

Plant:

Growth habit. - Decumbent.

Plant height. - Approximately 10.5 cm

Spreading area of plant. - Approximately 75 cm.

Blooming period. - Early April to late October in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

Thickness. - Main stem approximately 1.8 mm.

Pubescence. - Dense.

Branching. - Many.

Length of internode. - Approximately 0.9 cm.

Color. - Strong yellow green (R.H.S. 144B).

Leaf:

Whole shape. - Elliptic. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. - Approximately 8.0 cm.

Width. - Approximately 4.4 cm.

Color. - Upper-side color is moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence. - Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction. - Slanted upward.

Type. - Single.

Shape of corolla tube. - Medium.

Shape of petal chip. - Rounded.

Lobation. - Shallow.

Waving of petal. - Weak.

Diameter. - Approximately 5.5 cm.

Color. - Petal; light purplish pink (R.H.S. 73C) with vivid reddish purple (R.H.S. 74A) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; brilliant purple (R.H.S. 81C).

Outside color of the corolla tube; very pale violet (R.H.S. 92D).

Reproductive organs. - 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. Color of pistil is strong yellow green (R.H.S. 144B). Color of stamen is light purple (R.H.S. 85A).

Peduncle. - Approximately 0.7 mm in thickness, and approximately 1.7 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics; Moderate resistance to cold and pests. Strong resistance to rain, heat and diseases.

The main botanical characteristics of similar variety 'Revolution hotpink marrose' used for examination as comparison are as follows:

Plant:

Growth habit. - Decumbent.

Plant height. - Approximately 16 cm

Spreading area of plant. - Large.

Blooming period. - Early April to late October in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

Thickness. - Main stem, approximately 3.0 mm.

Pubescence. - Normal.

Branching. - Many.

Length of internode. - Approximately 3.0 cm.

Color. - Moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A).

Leaf:

Whole shape. - Lanceolate. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. - Approximately 5.5 cm.

Width. - Approximately 4.0 cm.

Color. - Upper-side color is moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence. - Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction. - Slanted upward.

Type. - Single.

Shape of corolla tube. - Thick.

Shape of petal chip. - Acute.

Lobation. - Medium.

5 Waving of petal. - Weak.

Diameter. - Approximately 7.5 cm.

Color. - Petal; deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 61D) with dark reddish purple (R.H.S. N79B) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; deep purple (R.H.S. 83A). Outside
10 color of the corolla tube; deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 61D).

Reproductive organs. - 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. Color of pistil is grayish olive green (R.H.S. 137A). Color of stamen is light purple (R.H.S. 87D).

15 Peduncle. - Approximately 1.0 mm in thickness, and approximately 2.0 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics; - Moderate resistance to pests. Strong resistance to cold, rain, heat and diseases.

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SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

The new variety of the petunia plant has a decumbent growth habit, abundant branching and great profusion
25 blooms with the whole plant remaining in bloom for a considerable period of time. The flowers are single and medium size. The petal color is vivid purplish red with deep purplish red vein. The plant has a high resistance to rain, cold, heat and diseases.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

FIG. 1 is a photograph of flowers and leaves of the new variety of Petunia plant 'Sunrovein'.

35 FIG. 2 is a close-up photograph of flowers of the new variety of Petunia plant 'Sunrovein'.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

The botanical characteristics of the new and distinct variety of Petunia plant named 'Sunrovein' are as follows.

Plant:

Growth habit. - Decumbent.

Plant height. - Approximately 25 cm

Spreading area of plant. - Approximately 80 cm.

Blooming period. - Mid April to late October in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

Thickness. - Main stem approximately 2.2 mm.

Pubescence. - Normal.

Branching. - Many.

Length of internode. - Approximately 2.0 cm.

Color. - Moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A).

Leaf:

Whole shape. - Elliptic. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. - Approximately 4.8 cm.

Width. - Approximately 3.2 cm.

Color. - Upper-side color is moderate olive green (R.H.S. 146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence. - Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction. - Horizontal.

Type. - Single.

Shape of corolla tube. - Thick.

Shape of petal chip. - Obtuse.

Lobation. - Medium.

Waving of petal. - Medium.

Diameter. - Approximately 7.0 cm.

Color. - Petal; vivid purplish red (R.H.S. 71B) with deep purplish red (R.H.S. 71A) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; moderate purplish red (R.H.S. N77B).

Outside color of the corolla tube; light purplish pink (R.H.S. 62D).

Reproductive organs. - 1 normal pistil and 5 normal
stamens. Color of pistil is grayish olive green (R.H.S.
5 137A). Color of stamen is light purple (R.H.S. 87D).

Peduncle. - Approximately 1.7 mm in thickness, and
approximately 2.0 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics; -
Moderate resistance to pests. Strong resistance to cold,
10 rain, heat and diseases.

This new variety of Petunia plant is most suitable
for flower bedding, potting and large planters. Pinching
of old blossoms will enhance the formation of new
15 blossoms.